

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 31, 2011

Media Contact:

Brian Blackford Communications and Outreach Director Indiana Office of Tourism Development bblackford@VisitIndiana.com 317.232.8881; 317.690.5819 (c)

VisitIndiana.com features Valentine's Day deals, trip ideas

Close-to-home romantic retreats available

INDIANAPOLIS -There's a lot to love about Indiana this Valentine's Day. The Indiana Office of Tourism Development has partnered with hotels and attractions to highlight memorable romantic retreats that are close-to-home and budget-friendly.

"We all lead hectic lives. Valentine's Day is an opportunity to slow down and spend time with loved ones," said Lt. Governor Becky Skillman. "Unique, discounted packages at destinations across Indiana give Hoosiers plenty of options to get away while supporting local businesses."

The Indiana Office of Tourism Development partnered with the Indiana Hotel and Lodging Association to offer premium deals through the agency's award-winning email program. <u>VisitIndiana.com</u>, the official travel website for Indiana, also features several great Valentine's Day specials. Here are a few examples:

- Enjoy a night on the town at the Hampton Inn Downtown in Indianapolis. The package includes
 overnight accommodations and breakfast, a donation made in your name to the American Heart
 Association, Circle Centre mall shopping coupons, dinner for two and game coupons at Jillian's,
 \$149.
- Experience historic charm at the Philip W. Smith Bed & Breakfast in Richmond. The package
 includes overnight accommodations and breakfast, Gaar Mansion tour and lunch, Canteberry
 Spa and Day Salon massages, Arden Hearth high tea and Gennett Mansion five-course dinner,
 \$384.
- Relax in a rustic setting at the **Fort Harrison State Park Inn** in Indianapolis. The package includes overnight accommodations, in-room gift and Sunday brunch, \$129.
- Discover serenity at the **Stonebridge Inn & Spa** in Batesville. The package includes overnight accommodations, spa treatment and sweetheart goodies, \$450.
- Find peace and quiet at **New Harmony Inn** in New Harmony. The package includes overnight accommodations, in-room wine and sweets, dinner at Red Geranium and continental breakfast, starting around \$229.

Here are a few more ways Hoosiers can celebrate Valentine's Day.

 Sip local wine and sample decadent desserts along the Indy Wine Trail and the Indiana Uplands Wine Trail. Both trails, totaling 15 wineries combined, host chocolate lover's weekends in February, prices vary.

- "Fly Your Sweetie to the Moon" at the Challenger Learning Center in Hammond, \$30.
- Listen to Love Songs with Everett Green at the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center in Indianapolis, \$60.
- Replace roses with a trip to Orchid Escape at Mesker Park Zoo and Botanical Garden in Evansville, starting at \$4.50.

Log on to <u>VisitIndiana.com</u> year-round to make travel plans. In addition to listing discounts, upcoming events and trip ideas, VisitIndiana.com is also the best way to connect with fellow travelers and get insider tips through social medial forums like the <u>Indiana Insider blog</u>.

-30-

Lt. Governor Becky Skillman oversees the Indiana Office of Tourism Development. Amy Vaughan serves as the agency's Director.